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NOT VOTING-42

Gillibrand Pascrell Baldwin Bonner Grijalva Peterson (PA) Brady (PA) Higgins Pryce (OH) Brady (TX) Hunter Radanovich Inglis (SC) Brown (SC) Royce Brown, Corrine Jefferson Sánchez, Linda Johnson (IL) Buver Т. Capuano Kilpatrick Serrano Castor Matsui Sessions Smith (WA) Cooper McCarthy (NY) Crowley Meek (FL) Tancredo Davis, Jo Ann Miller (FL) Weller Moran (VA) Emanuel Young (FL) Murtha Neal (MA) Gallegly

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1917

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, due to official leave of absence, I was unable to vote on three bills considered today under suspension of the rules. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of H.R. 85, the Energy Technology Transfer Act; "yea" on final passage of H. Res. 136, Commending the Girl Scouts of the United States on the Occasion of their 95th Anniversary, and "yea" on H.R. 89, Establishing the Sense of the House of Representatives that a day should be established as Dutch-American Friendship Day.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEES ON HOMELAND SE-CURITY AND FINANCIAL SERV-ICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committees on Homeland Security and Financial Services:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Washington, DC, March 9, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker, House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I am writing to resign my appointment to the House Homeland Security Committee and the House Financial Services Committee pending my appointment to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Warm regards,

MARSHA BLACKBURN, Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM TO $_{
m FILE}$ SUPPLE-MENTAL REPORT ON H.R. 985, WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. TIERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to file a supplemental report to accompany H.R. 985, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. PEARCE. Madam Speaker, on Friday, March 9, while on a tour of Walter Reed Medical Center, I inadvertently missed the vote on H. Res. 229. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

MINORITY REMOVING MEMBER. FROM AND ELECTING CERTAIN MINORITY MEMBERS TO CER-TAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 236) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as fol-

H RES 236

Resolved, That Mr. Burton of Indiana is hereby removed from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SEC. 2. The following named Members are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR.-Mr. Heller of Nevada, to rank immediately after Mr. Walberg.

(2) COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE.-Mrs. Blackburn.

(3) COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES.— MR. MARCHANT.

(4) COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND IN-FRASTRUCTURE.-Mrs. Capito, to rank immediately after Mr. Boozman.

(5) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.— Mr. McCarthy of California.

(6) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND NOLOGY.—MR. REICHERT, TO RANK IMME-DIATELY AFTER MR. INGLIS OF SOUTH CARO-LINA.

(7) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr.

Mr. PUTNAM (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HALLIBURTON

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, yesterday in the afternoon on a bright Sunday, one of my constituents, my corporate constituents, decided to offer a press statement to indicate that they were relocating to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

We know that many American companies do have their offices in Dubai, and we know it is a thriving metropolis of business. But Halliburton is one of the largest corporate government contractors in the United States; and, unfortunately, their offices located in the 18th Congressional District have had an impact on the employees who work there

It is unfortunate that the arrogance of this company would suggest that they could make announcements in the brightness of sunlight on Sunday and not engage their local community leaders, their employees, and others who might be vested in the relocation of corporate headquarters.

So I ask the leadership of this company to come forward and answer a number of questions which I will be sending to them. And I express my own personal outrage that a company would move its corporate headquarters without the full discussion of those who are stakeholders and work every day paying their taxes as employees of this company.

I look forward to the light of day being shined on Halliburton.

VILLAINS HALL OF SHAME

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, there is a new candidate for the "Villains Hall of Shame." What began as a Sunday morning journey to church for Rose Morat of Queens, New York, ended up in ambush, robbery, and 4 days in the hospital.

Ms. Morat is 101 years old. She was leaving her apartment complex when a shameless woman-beater pretended to help her out the door, but smashed her three times in the face, breaking a cheekbone. He stole her purse; then he threw her to the ground and hit her again. And after making his getaway, this dastardly menace struck again 30 minutes later. This time he beat up an 85-year-old lady and stole her purse.

New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly has made it a priority to capture this outlaw. Angry New Yorkers are already flooding the airwaves with suggestions for punishment for this criminal that would make the hanging of Saddam Hussein look mild.

Madam Speaker, even in our current culture of tolerance, there are some things you just don't do, some things we just don't tolerate. No one beats up elderly grandmothers, or they will face the wrath of the public and the long arm of the law.

And that's just the way it is.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-woman from New York (Mrs. McCarthy) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. McCARTHY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FORMER U.S. BORDER PATROL AGENTS RAMOS AND COMPEAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today is the 55th day of an injustice. This injustice began on January 17 of 2007 when two U.S. Border Patrol agents entered Federal prison.

Agents Ramos and Compean were convicted last spring for shooting a Mexican drug smuggler who brought 743 pounds of marijuana across our border into Texas.

These two agents were doing their job to protect the American people. They never should have been sent to prison. There are legitimate legal questions about how this prosecution was initiated and about how the prosecutors proceeded in this case.

To prosecute the agents, the U.S. Attorney's Office granted immunity to a known drug smuggler. Homeland Security officials promised Members of Congress certain information about this case, but they could not provide the information. Reports have also indicated that the prosecutors may have withheld crucial evidence from the defense. The Drug Enforcement Agency reports revealed that the Mexican drug smuggler brought a second load of marijuana, 752 pounds, into the United States. But this information was kept from the jury and the public.

Madam Speaker, over the past 6 months, dozens of Members of Congress have asked President Bush to listen to the American people and pardon these agents.

I want the two agents and their families to know that we have not forgotten them and we will not forget them. Members of Congress will come to the floor to defend these agents, and we

will continue to do so until they are pardoned.

On February 7, 2007, Senator DIANE FEINSTEIN wrote Judiciary Chairman PATRICK LEAHY to request a committee investigation of this case. She wrote, and I quote the Senator:

"I strongly believe that the sentences in this case are too extreme given the criminal nature of the smuggler and his possession of large quantities of drugs and given the fact that he physically resisted at least one attempt by Agents Ramos and Compean to bring him into custody.

"In addition, to my knowledge, neither of the agents had prior convictions or any other aggravating circumstances to warrant particularly harsh treatment under the law. Yet these men were given sentences that some individuals who are convicted of murder would not receive."

Madam Speaker, this is not a Republican or a Democratic issue, but it is an issue of fairness and justice. Chairman Leahy has already approved Senate hearings in this case. On February 23, 2007, I sent a letter to House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers asking for hearings on this case on the House side. I hope Congress will soon hold these hearings because it is time for justice to prevail over an injustice.

Madam Speaker, before closing, I want to say to the White House and to the President, please listen to the American people. Please assure the American people that two agents who have done their best to help protect America will not be forgotten in prison, because they have no business being in prison. They should receive justice, not injustice.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CUMMINGS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.